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## THE FELLOW IN GREASY JEANS.

CHAS. F. LUMMUS.

Whew! How the drivers hammer!  
We are late by an hour or more;  
We sway and swerve on the ringing curve,  
And the bridges reel and roar.

Look how the engine lurches—  
And out of its window cranes,  
With gray eyes wed to the track ahead,  
A fellow in greasy jeans.

Scarcely looks like the fellow  
To trust with so grave a care—  
In that grimy face 't were hard to trace  
The metal that should be there.

Faster we roar and faster—  
The hand at the throttle shows  
Steady enough, if the face is rough—  
And the landscape melts and flows.

Into the cut—and horror!  
There death has the right of way!  
The whistle wakes to a shriek for brakes  
And what does the swift brain say?

Jump for Moll and the babies,  
And for dear life's love supreme!  
Jump from the doom of a crunching tomb  
And the hell of the howling steam.

Stay, for the hero's duty,  
The trust of a hundred lives!  
Stay, for the sake of the hearts would break,  
And for other babes and wives!

He stays! with white teeth gritting  
And with hands that snatch amain,  
The monster ruts on reversing wheels,  
And the air-brake chokes the train.

We are safe with our scratches—  
There's only the engine wrecked,  
And the engineer? O, well, I fear  
That's only what all expect.

And in the torn steel's chaos  
I read what our life ordains,  
And, shivering, pause—for you cinder was  
The fellow in greasy jeans!

—*Locomotive Engineers' Journal.*

## SUNDAY OPENING OF THE WORLD'S FAIR.

The World's Fair National Commission met in Chicago on Wednesday, Sept. 16. One of the first acts was to grant a hearing, on the question of opening the Exposition on Sundays, to a large delegation of the friends of Sabbath observance from New York, Philadelphia, Washington, and from different States in the East and South. On behalf of the Columbian Sunday Association of Chicago, Gen. C. H. Howard, its president, and E. F. Cragin, secretary, welcomed the visiting delegates to Chicago. The speakers selected to present the matter to the World's Commission were as follows:

Rev. Dr. Herrick Johnson, the historic side of the Sabbath question; Gen. O. O. Howard, of New York, the patriotic side; the Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Fernly, of Philadelphia, the statistics of the Philadelphia exposition; Bishop J. P. Newman, of the Methodist Church, the civil

aspects of the subject; the Hon. L. B. Coffin, of Iowa, the interests of the wage-workers in keeping the gates closed on Sunday; Edward F. Cragin, the history of former expositions; the Rev. F. L. Patton, the biblical argument, and the Rev. Dr. P. S. Henson, suggestions as to the best and most profitable method for those attending the Exposition to spend the Sunday.

The Commission had passed a resolution at a previous session that this matter should not be acted upon until the local Chicago directory had taken action. For this reason nothing conclusive could now be done. Meanwhile the Columbian Sunday Association will continue its work in co-operation with a committee appointed at this conference with special reference to the local directory. The committee is a representative one and will be permanent. It consists of thirteen, and is as follows: Gen. C. H. Howard, Rev. Herrick Johnson, Rev. S. J. McPherson, Rev. P. S. Henson, Andrew McLeish, E. F. Cragin, Rev. James P. Mills, John F. Dale, W. F. Underwood, Rev. George Elliott, Washington, D. C., Rev. R. S. McArthur, New York; Rev. J. W. Bardsley, Detroit, and William R. Worrall, New York.

The Columbian Sunday Association have for a definite purpose, to arrange with the World's Fair Congress Auxiliary to hold appropriate meetings on Sunday.

Among many communications and petitions received by the Commission at this time was the resolution of the National Alliance and Industrial Union at their Ocala meeting as follows: On motion of T. R. Carskadon, of West Virginia, it was unanimously resolved:

We, the National Farmers' Alliance of America, believing that obedience and veneration for the laws of God are the conserving and saving force of human Government, do hereby respectfully request that the directors of the great International Fair to be held in 1893 do not desecrate the American Sabbath by keeping open the gates to the same on the Lord's Day.

## PENSIONS.

Quoting from an article by Prof. W. M. Sloane in the *Century* for June, we are reminded that "General Grant thought that \$27,000,000 annually was not only an ample, but a lavish provision for those who had suffered in the last war, barring all schemes of back pay, service and dependent pensions, which he denounced as highway robbery. Garfield, in 1872, said that nothing but unwarrantable extravagance would increase the pension list above \$29,000,000 a year."

But what now is the present demand in the matter of pensions? The Government, or more properly the people, is paying yearly an aggregate on pension account equal to at least five times the highest estimate above given, while there are pending in the Pension Commissioner's office upward of 500,000 applications, which when determined, will almost certainly make a total yearly charge upon the country of \$200,000,000. No one questions the propriety of giving pensions to disabled soldiers; but that more than one-half of our vast national revenue should be appropriated to the payment of claims, many of which have not the slightest semblance to justice, is exciting astonishment and indignation. I am glad, too, to hear that a good many of the old soldiers not only wash their hands of the whole conspiracy, but are openly protesting against it.—*J. W. Leeds.*